

\April 3, 2024  
Dativa Kantamba  
Alphonse Kayitara  
875 Manton Ave  
Providence, RI 02909

Chairman Marvin Abney  
House Finance Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: House Bill 7684 | Senate Bill 2335- At the Southside Community Land Trust we work with a network of 35 small and urban farmers and more than 400 community gardeners. These farmers and gardeners are often BIPOC, immigrants with English as their second language and immense expertise in growing and distributing fresh food. A number of these farmers took some time out of their farming to share some words about what it would mean to them to see this bill passed.**

*We are writing because we live in PROVIDENCE and have been farming in RI since 2021. We farm to eat and sell food and help my community. Tax relief will help my business grow. We can use that money for personal and business bills and more farming supplies.*

*This is important to us because not everyone in our community can grow food and people need our business.*

In order to continue doing this work, I am asking you to please help pass **House Bill 7684 / Senate Bill 2335** which would make tax relief programs available for small and urban farms. The **Small and Urban Farms Success Act** to ensure that I maintain a livelihood and Rhode Islander's have access to food.

Signed,  
\* Alphonse Kayitara   
\* Dativa Kantamba 

Name

Group of African Unity

Farm Business Name